63:Simmons et al G-8 (1941-1951) 1954
M1 Middle East
SYRIA MD 1

versal among the 15 camels slaughtered in the same period, but the consumption of camel's meat is normally restricted to small groups of the population. 232 164

Rare cases of trichinosis are reported among the Christian peoples. Canine infections with the fluke, *Heterophyes heterophyes*, are numerous, and one instance of infection in man has been recorded. 164

Brucellosis. Brucellosis is enzootic among the goats and the cattle. Sporadic cases of undulant fever, caused by *Brucella melitensis*, occur in man. However, infection with *Br. abortus* has not been reported. According to local custom, milk is seldom used without boiling, but infection may result from the consumption of contaminated cheese or butter, as well as from contact with infected animals. 232 164 262 252 164

Diseases Spread Chiefly Through the Respiratory Tract

Tuberculosis. The reporting of tuberculosis is not compulsory in Syria, and the prevalence of the disease is not accurately known. On the basis of mortality statistics for 1947 and 1949, about 1.8 to 2.0 per cent of the total recorded deaths were due to tuberculosis. The usual discrepancies in reporting are exaggerated, however, by the tendency to conceal the presence of tuberculosis because of the social stigma attached to the disease. From 80 to 90 per cent of the known deaths were attributed to pulmonary infection, but nonpulmonary forms of tuberculosis are common in most areas. Competent local authorities estimated that there were at least 32,000 cases of tuberculosis in the country in 1951, representing a morbidity rate of about 10 per 1,000 population. 164 165 164 183 164

In the survey carried on in Damascus in 1950, tuberculin tests were performed on 10,695 individuals between 6 and 24 years of age. The positive reaction rate rose progressively with age: 12 per cent of 563 children, 6 years of age, gave a positive reaction to tuberculin, and 46 to 51 per cent of 1,079 persons from 16 to 19 years of age. 659 751

p. 151(B)